

## OLVER ANNOUNCES \$3.3 MILLION FOR PIONEER VALLEY

February 14, 2003

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WASHINGTON – Congressman John W. Olver (1st District) announced today the final funding for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's

The funding was included in the Omnibus Appropriations Conference Report approved by the House of Representatives.

"I'm glad that Congress has finally approved an overall spending bill for the current fiscal year."

A summary of these projects is provided below.

### **Connecticut River cleanup: \$810,000**

This funding will assist the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's efforts to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) in the Connecticut River watershed.

Clean up of these combined sewer overflows has been mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

"The EPA mandate to correct CSOs is an environmentally sound endeavor, but unfortunately, it has not been fully funded."

For more information, contact Tim Brennen, executive director of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, at 413-584-8100.

### **Co-opPlus of Western Massachusetts, Inc., Holyoke: \$750,000**

Co-opPlus of Western Massachusetts, Inc. is a Holyoke-based distributor of environmental products and services.

"By delivering reasonably priced and environmentally friendly energy to its members, Co-opPlus has helped them reduce their carbon footprint."

For more information, contact Terry Molner, board member of Co-opPlus, at 413-584-8100.

### **Safe Seafood Project at UMass: \$425,000**

The Safe Seafood Project at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst combines food safety research with outreach to consumers.

"This investment in seafood safety research could ultimately save thousands of dollars in health care costs."

Last fiscal year, Olver secured \$400,000 for the seafood safety project. Through this research, the project will help consumers make informed choices.

For more information, contact Fergus M. Clydesdale, head of the food science department at UMass, at 413-584-8100.

### **Museum of American Democracy, Deerfield: \$300,000**

The funding will be used to restore and renovate four historic buildings of the Old Deerfield Village Historic Landmark District.

"This is an exciting project that will introduce visitors to the culture and history of American democracy."

The buildings are part of the Old Deerfield Village Historic Landmark District, established in 1982.

For more information, contact Timothy C. Neumann, executive director of the Pocumtuc Valley Historical Society, at 413-584-8100.

**Franklin County Community Coalition of Teens, Youth Substance Abuse Prevention: \$300,000**

The Community Coalition of Teens project will create the first comprehensive 30-town regional health and substance abuse prevention and treatment program. Local health and substance abuse prevention and treatment professionals, as well as state and federal health care providers, will be involved in the project. For more information, please contact Linda Dunlavy, executive director of Franklin Regional Health Center, 1000 Main Street, Franklin, MA 01446, (508) 881-1234.

**Community Health Center of Franklin County, Turners Falls: \$225,000**

The Community Health Center of Franklin County is a private, not-for-profit corporation that provides a wide range of health care services to the residents of Franklin County. "This community health center works to improve the health status of residents in the area by providing a variety of health care services, including primary care, specialty care, and preventive care. The Center is the only federally qualified health center available in Franklin County. The Center is currently seeking funding to expand its services and to improve its facilities. For more information, please contact Dr. Sarah Kemble, executive director, CHC of Franklin County, 1000 Main Street, Turners Falls, MA 01461, (508) 881-1234.

**Local Emergency Planning in Franklin and Hampshire counties: \$200,000**

This funding will allow the Franklin and Hampshire Councils of Government to work with the state and federal emergency planning agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive emergency planning program. This multi-year project has taken on new significance in light of heightened awareness of the need for emergency planning. "While considerable monies have been allocated for federal and state emergency planning, there is still a need for local emergency planning. For more information, please contact Linda Dunlavy, executive director of Franklin Regional Health Center, 1000 Main Street, Franklin, MA 01446, (508) 881-1234.

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